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**WIGAN**

**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

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# **Annual Report**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

AND

**NUISANCE INSPECTOR,**

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1921.**



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STANDISH,

MAY, 1922.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Wigan Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

It is my pleasing duty to lay before you my Seventh Annual Report. I most gladly acknowledge the ready assistance and co-operation of the Council relative to the Public Health of the various townships comprising your district.

I again take this opportunity of thanking the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Paul Fairelough, for his valuable support during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. H. ORMSBY,

L.M.S.S.A., Lond.

Fellow of the Royal Institute of  
Public Health;

Fellow of the Society of Medical  
Officers of Health.

## Statistical Summary for whole District.

Population—Census 1911	...	...	...	...	6,327
Population, Census 1921	...	...	...	...	6,296
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1920	...	...	...	...	6,109
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1921	...	...	...	...	6,310
Acreage of District	...	...	...	11,696	acres
Density of Population per acre	...	...	...	0.5	
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	1,437	
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	1,427	
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£63,745	15 0
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£233	7 5¼
Births—					
		Males.		Females.	
Legitimate	...	65	...	60	} 127
Illegitimate	...	2	...	0	
Deaths—Males	...	...	...	35	
Females	...	...	...	44	
				—	79
Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	...	20.1
Annual Death-rate	...	...	...	...	12.5
Natural Increase of Births over Deaths	...	...	...	...	48
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	...	...	...	...	14
Zymotic Death-rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	0.63
Phthisis Death-rate	...	...	...	...	1.26
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,					
Child Birth—From Sepsis	...	...	...	...	1
„ other causes	...	...	...	...	2
Deaths in Infants under one year—Legitimate 7,					
Illegitimate 0	...	...	...	...	7
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	...	55
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	1

## Populations and Acreages in the separate Townships.

	Census Population, 1921.	Estimated Total Population, July 1st, 1921.	Acreage
Shevington ...	1954	1957	1727
Wrightington...	1998	2002	3915
Haigh ...	952	955	2134
Parbold ...	729	731	1158
Dalton ...	430	431	2103
Worthington ...	233	234	659
	<hr/> 6296	<hr/> 6310	<hr/> 11696

### COMPARATIVE TABLES

	Births.	Rates.	Deaths.	Rates.
Shevington ...	46	23·50	31	15·84
Wrightington...	45	22·47	19	9·49
Haigh ...	12	12·56	8	8·37
Parbold ...	10	13·67	14	19·15
Dalton ...	8	18·56	5	11·60
Worthington ...	6	25·64	2	8·54
	<hr/> 127		<hr/> 79	

### ZYMOTIC DISEASES NOTIFIED AND DEATHS (including Tuberculosis).

	Cases.	Deaths.
Shevington ...	10	6
Wrightington...	14	5
Haigh ...	8	1
Parbold ...	8	3
Dalton ...	2	0
Worthington ...	0	0
	<hr/> 42	<hr/> 15

### INFANTILE DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR.

	1921.	1920.	Rate per 1,000 Births 1921.
Shevington ...	4	3	86·95
Wrightington ...	1	2	22·22
Haigh ...	0	0	0
Parbold ...	2	0	200
Dalton ...	0	0	0
Worthington ...	0	0	0
	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 5	



## WIGAN RURAL DISTRICT.

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**BIRTHS.**—There were 23 less births than in the previous year. The natural increase of births over deaths is 48, compared with 78 for last year. Only 2 illegitimate births were registered, being a decrease of 4 over the preceding year. Wrightington and Worthington accounted for 1 each. Male infants predominated the females by 7.

**DEATHS.**—These show an increase of 7 over the previous year, the rate being 12.5, as against 11.7 for last year. Parbold gave the largest increase, viz., 7, while Shevington gave 5; Haigh gave a decrease of 2, Wrightington, Dalton, and Worthington 1 each.

**INFANTILE DEATHS.**—Seven deaths in infants under one year were registered, being two in excess of last year, raising the rate per 1,000 births from 33 to 55. The causes of death were Congenital Debility 2, Convulsions 2, Whooping Cough, Dermatitis, and Epidemic Diarrhoea 1 each. Our infantile death-rate, though larger than the previous year, is still a low one compared with that of England and Wales, which was 83.

A Lady Health Visitor, appointed by the County Council in conjunction with other districts, continues to pay periodical visits to the mothers, and instructs them in the rearing of children.

Thirteen deaths occurred in residents belonging to the district in institutions outside the district, and are as follows:—

Wigan Union Infirmary, Billinge	...	5
Wigan Infirmary	... ..	2
Heath Charnock Sanatorium	... ..	1
Liverpool Stanley Hospital	... ..	1
Prestwich Lunatic Asylum	... ..	1
Bull Hill Sanatorium, Darwen	... ..	1
Other Deaths	... ..	2

Three deaths of non-residents were registered in the district, and were all transferred to their proper quarter.

The causes of death were as follows:—

Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Influenza	...	...	...	5
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...			8
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...		2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...		7
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	2
Diabetes	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage		...	...	6
Heart Disease	...	...	...	3
Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia (all forms)		...	...	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...		1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...		1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...		2
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition		...	...	2
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth				2
Violent Deaths	...	...	...	5
Other Defined Causes	...	...		19
				—
				79

Six of the deaths were uncertified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS.—42 cases were notified, a decrease of 1 over the previous year, and are as follows: Diphtheria 6, Erysipelas 5, Scarlet Fever 14, Enteric Fever 1, Acute Primary Pneumonia and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia 3, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 9, other forms of Tuberculosis 3, and Puerperal Fever 1. Wrightington and Parbold accounted for 5 cases each of Scarlet

Fever; Shevington and Haigh were responsible for 2 each. No cases were reported from Dalton and Worthington. One case was removed to the Whelley Sanatorium for treatment.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Only 1 case of this disease was reported, which proved fatal.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—Under this heading 15 deaths occurred, and were as follows: Enteric Fever 1, Tuberculosis of Respiratory System 8, other forms of Tuberculosis 2, Whooping Cough 2, Epidemic Diarrhoea and Puerperal Sepsis 1 each.

PULMONARY AND OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.—Twelve cases were notified under this heading, compared with 6 for last year, of which 10 proved fatal. The localities where these cases occurred are as follows:—

	Pulmonary.	Other Forms.	Deaths.
Shevington .....	4	1	3
Wrightington .....	2	1	5
Haigh .....	0	1	0
Parbold .....	2	0	2
Worthington .....	0	0	0
Dalton .....	1	0	0
	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 10

From the above table it will be observed that Worthington was the only township not affected.

Phthisis death-rate again shows an increase from 0.81 to 1.26.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.—The adoption of this procedure was not found necessary.

SMALLPOX.—There were no cases of this disease during the year.

VACCINATIONS.—Fifty-eight Primary Vaccinations were successfully performed during the year. There were no Re-Vaccinations.



**WATER SUPPLY.**—The water is of good quality; High Moor and Dalton are still dependent on wells for their supply.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**—The privy system is still mainly used, and the emptying of same is carried out to my satisfaction.

**SCAVENGING.**—This continues to be well performed.

**DRAINS, SEWERS, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**—This is carried out by means of watercourses and cesspools, other than the Bleachworks portion of Haigh, which has an Outfall Works.

**LODGING HOUSES.**—There are no registered common lodging houses in the district.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.**—The administration of this Act is now in the hands of the County Council.

**SLAUGHTER HOUSES.**—These are in good repair, and kept clean.

**HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES ACT & TOWN PLANNING ACT.**—There are still many dilapidations in property in the district, and I must again urge the owners to realise their responsibilities in this direction. Owing to the desire of the Ministry of Health for economy in the Housing scheme, the erection of new houses by the Council is still in abeyance.

**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—I am still of the opinion that an Infectious Hospital is much needed for the district, as the houses generally occupied by the working classes are most unsuitable for isolation.

## SHEVINGTON.

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Population, Census 1911	...	...	...	1,905
Population—Census 1921	...	...	...	1,954
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1920	...	...	...	1,858
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1921	...	...	...	1,957
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	1,727 acres
Density of Population per Acre	...	...	...	1.0
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	424
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	420
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£10,663 15 0
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£42 3 0
Births—		Males	Females	
Legitimate	...	25	21	} 46
Illegitimate	...	0	0	
Deaths—Males	...	...	...	11
Females	...	...	...	20
				— 31
Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	23.50
Annual Death-rate	...	...	...	15.84
Natural Increase of Births over Deaths	...	...	...	15
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	...	...	...	6
Zymotic Death-rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	1.53
Phthisis Death-rate	...	...	...	1.02
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,				
Child Birth—From Sepsis	...	...	...	0
,, other causes	...	...	...	1
Deaths in Infants under one year—Legitimate 4,				
Illegitimate 0	...	...	...	4
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	86.95
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	2
,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0

**BIRTHS.**—There were 13 less births than in the previous year, the males being responsible for 8 and the females 5, decreasing the rate from 31.75 to 23.50. There were no illegitimate births.

**DEATHS.**—Five more deaths were registered than last year, the rate rising from 13.99 to 15.84. Infantile deaths gave rise to one over 1920, giving a rate of 86.95, against 50.84 per 1,000 births over the previous year.

The causes of death were:—

Influenza	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System				2
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...		1
Cancer	...	...	...	3
Nephritis	...	...	...	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage		...	...	3
Heart Disease	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia (all forms)		...	...	2
Parturition	...	...	...	1
Congenital Debility	...	...	...	2
Violent Deaths	...	...	...	2
Other Defined Causes		...	...	7
				<hr/>
				31

Three of the deaths were uncertified.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS.**—10 cases were notified, being a decrease of 9 over last year, and were as follows: Diphtheria 1, Erysipelas 1, Enteric Fever 1, Scarlet Fever 2, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 4, other Tuberculous Diseases 1. Six deaths occurred from Zymotic diseases; Whooping Cough accounted for 2, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2, other forms of Tuberculosis and Enteric Fever 1 each.

**SCHOOL CLOSURE.**—None adopted.

## WRIGHTINGTON.

Population—Census 1911	...	...	...	1,928
Population—Census 1921	...	...	...	1,998
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1920	...	...	...	1856
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1921	...	...	...	2002
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	3915 acres
Density of Population per acre	...	...	...	0·51
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	465
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	462
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£15,411 5 0
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£57 17 1¼
Births—		Males	Females	
Legitimate	...	21	23	} 45
Illegitimate	...	1	0	
Deaths—Males	...	...	...	6
Females	...	...	...	13
				— 19
Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	22·47
Annual Death-rate	...	...	...	9·49
Natural Increase of Births over Deaths	...	...	...	26
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	...	...	...	5
Zymotic Death-rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	0
Phthisis Death-rate	...	...	...	1·99
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,				
Child Birth—From Sepsis	...	...	...	0
,, other causes	...	...	...	1
Deaths in Infants under one year—Legitimate	1			
Illegitimate	0	...	...	1
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 births	...	...	...	22·22
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0



BIRTHS.—These gave rise to one over the previous year. There was 1 illegitimate birth, against 3 for last year.

DEATHS.—There was one less death than in 1920. Infantile deaths show a decrease of one compared with last year, reducing the rate from 45.45 to 22.22.

The causes of death were:—

Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System				4
Other forms of Tuberculous Diseases	...			1
Heart Disease	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	...	2
Other Accidents, and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	1
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	4
				<hr/> 19

All the deaths were certified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS.—14 cases were notified, being an increase of 4 over the preceding year, and were as follows: Scarlet Fever 5, Diphtheria 4, Erysipelas 2, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2, other forms of Tuberculous Disease 1. 5 deaths occurred, 4 from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System, and 1 from other forms of Tuberculous Diseases. One case of Scarlet Fever was removed to the Wigan Whelley Sanatorium for treatment.

SCHOOL CLOSURE —This was not found necessary.



## HAIGH.

---

Population—Census 1911	...	...	...	1,088
Population—Census 1921	...	...	...	952
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1920	...	...	...	1,043
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1921	...	...	...	955
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	2,134 acres
Density of Population per acre	...	...	...	0.44
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	229
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers	...	...	...	224
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£17,556 0 0
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£56 0 0
<b>Births—</b>		<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	
Legitimate	...	11	1	} 12
Illegitimate	...	0	0	
<b>Deaths—Males</b>	...	...	...	6
Females	...	...	...	2
				— 8
Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	12.56
Annual Death-rate	...	...	...	8.37
Natural Increase of Births over Deaths	...	...	...	4
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	...	...	...	1
Zymotic Death-rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	1.04
Phthisis Death-rate	...	...	...	0
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,				
Child Birth—From Sepsis	...	...	...	1
,, other causes	...	...	...	0
Deaths in Infants under one year—Legitimate	0			
Illegitimate	0	...	...	0
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0

**BIRTHS.**—There were 8 less births than last year, 2 males and 6 females, lowering the rate from 19.17 to 12.56. There were no illegitimate births as in the previous year.

**DEATHS.**—Two less deaths were registered compared with 1920, reducing the rate from 9.58 to 8.37. There were again no deaths in infants under one year.

The causes of death were:—

Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	1
Violent Deaths	...	...	...	1
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	3
				8

One death was uncertified.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS.**—8 cases were notified, being the same number as last year. Scarlet Fever and Acute Pneumonia were responsible for 2 each, Erysipelas, Diphtheria, other forms of Tuberculosis, and Puerperal Sepsis accounted for 1 each. One death occurred, the last named case proving fatal.

**SCHOOL CLOSURE.**—No schools were closed.

## PARBOLD.

Population—Census 1911	...	...	...	...	711
Population—Census 1921	...	...	...	...	729
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1920	...	...	...	...	705
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1921	...	...	...	...	731
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	1,158	acres
Density of Population per acre	...	...	...	...	0.6
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	176
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	...	177
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£8,847	5 0
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£34	13 4
<b>Births—</b>					
		Males	Females		
Legitimate	...	5	5	}	10
Illegitimate	...	0	0		

				16	
Deaths—Males	...	...	...	10	
Females	...	...	...	4	
				—	14
Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	...	13·67
Annual Death-rate	...	...	...	...	19·15
Natural Increase of Deaths over Births			...	...	4
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases		...	...	...	3
Zymotic Death-rate (excluding Tuberculosis)				...	1·36
Phthisis Death-rate	...	...	...	...	2·73
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,					
Child Birth—From Sepsis		...	...	...	0
„ other causes			...	...	0
Deaths of Infants under one year—Legitimate 2,					
Illegitimate 0	...	...	...	...	2
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 Births			...	...	200
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		...	...	...	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)			...	...	0
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years)			...	...	1

BIRTHS.—10 births were registered, being the same number as in the previous year. The sexes were equally divided, giving a rate of 13.67, compared with 14.18 for last year. There were no illegitimate births.

DEATHS.—14 deaths were recorded, compared with 7 for the preceding year, increasing the rate from 9.92 to 19.15. There were 2 deaths in infants under 1 year, producing a rate of 200 per 1,000 births.

The causes of death were:—

Bronchitis	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	1
Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	1
Violence	...	...	...	2
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 14

Two deaths were uncertified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS.—8 cases were notified, being 7 in excess of last year, and were as follows: Scarlet Fever 5, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2, and Erysipelas 1. Three deaths were recorded, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2, and Diarrhœa 1.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.—No school closure was adopted during the year.

### DALTON.

Population—Census 1911	...	...	...	446
Population—Census 1921	...	..	...	430
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1920	...	..	...	413
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1921	...	...	...	431
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	2,103 acres
Density of Population per acre	...	...	...	0·2
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	92
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	93
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£2,990 0 0
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£9 10 0
Births—		Males	Females	
Legitimate	...	1	7	} 8
Illegitimate	...	0	0	
Deaths—Males	...	...	...	2
Females	...	...	...	3
				— 5
Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	18·56
Annual Death-rate	...	...	...	11·60
Natural Increase of Births over Deaths	...	...	...	3
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	...	...	...	0
Zymotic Death-rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	0
Phthisis Death-rate	...	...	...	0
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,				
Child Birth—From Sepsis	...	...	...	0
,, other causes	...	...	...	0
Deaths in Infants under one year—Legitimate	0			
Illegitimate	0	...	...	0
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0



**BIRTHS.**—There were 3 less births registered than in the previous year, the females exceeded the males by 6, all being born legitimate, the rate being reduced from 26.63 to 18.56.

**DEATHS.**—5 deaths were recorded, one less than last year, 2 males and 3 females, the rates compared being 14.52 for 1920, and 11.60 for this year. There were no infantile deaths under one year.

The causes of death were:

Influenza	...	...	...	3
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	2
				<hr/>
				5

All the deaths were certified.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS.**—Under this heading 2 cases were notified, Influenzal Pneumonia, and Pulmonary Tuberculosis. No deaths occurred.

**SCHOOL CLOSURE.**—No schools were closed.

## WORTHINGTON.

Population—Census 1911	...	...	...	249
Population—Census 1921	...	...	...	233
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1920	...	...	...	234
Estimated Population, July 1st, 1921	...	...	...	234
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	659 acres
Density of Population per acre	...	...	...	0.35
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	51
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	51
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£8,277 10 0
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£33 4 0
<b>Births—</b>		<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	
Legitimate	...	2	3	} 6
Illegitimate	...	1	0	
<b>Deaths—Males</b>	...	...	...	0
<b>Females</b>	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 2



Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	...	25.64
Annual Death-rate	...	...	...	...	8.54
Natural Increase of Births over Deaths	...	...	...	...	4
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	...	...	...	...	0
Zymotic Death-rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	0
Phthisis Death-rate	...	...	...	...	0
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,					
Child Birth—From Sepsis	...	...	...	...	0
,, other causes	...	...	...	...	0
Deaths in Infants under one year—Legitimate	0,				
Illegitimate	0	...	...	...	0
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	0

BIRTHS.—Six births were recorded, as in the previous year, the females predominated by one, the rate being equal with last year, viz., 25.64. There was only one illegitimate birth.

DEATHS.—There was one less death than in the previous year, the rate being 8.54, compared with 12.82 for 1920. There were again no deaths in infants under one year. No illegitimate deaths were recorded.

The causes of death were:—

Cancer	...	...	...	...	1
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					2

Both deaths were certified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS.—No cases under this heading were reported; no deaths occurred.

## WIGAN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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18, Victoria Buildings, King Street,

Wigan, March, 1922.

Dr. G. H. Ormsby, L.M.S.S.A., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health, Standish.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to submit the following report for the year 1921.

34 cases of notifiable diseases were referred to me, viz.:—  
Scarlet Fever 14, Tuberculosis 9, Diphtheria 6, Puerperal 1,  
Enteric 1, Acute Influenzal Pneumonia and Acute Primary Pneu-  
monia 3. All these cases were isolated at home.

29 houses were fumigated or sprayed.

39 informal and 18 statutory notices were served in connection  
with defects and nuisances which existed in various parts of the  
district. Most of these have been abated or the work is still in  
hand.

The following is a summary of the chief defects found:—

Defective privies, ashpits, pails, and bins	12
„ roofs ... ..	4
„ drains ... ..	13
„ eaves gutters and down pipes	20
„ and damp brickwork ...	12
Obstructed drains ... ..	5
Overflowing and defective cesspools ...	3
Foul ditches and watercourses ... ..	7
Accumulation of manure ... ..	1
Insufficient water supply ... ..	10
Animals kept so as to cause nuisance ...	1
Overcrowding ... ..	3

WATER ANALYSIS.—Two samples of water were procured from wells in the Dalton township, and both proved to be satisfactory.

SEWERS.—The sewer at Broad-o'th'-Lane, Shevington, was found to be defective, owing to settlement, and about 10 lineal yards were taken out and relaid in reinforced concrete.

In the Haigh township the sewer from Lakeside Cottages was entirely choked, owing to insufficient fall. Upon examination it was found that the manhole inverts required reconstructing. This sewer has been thoroughly cleansed, new half pipe inverts built in the manholes, two additional inspection eyes provided, and an automatic flushing syphon fixed at the upper end.

At Crooke about 100 lineal yards of 12 inch earthenware pipes have been reclaimed from a shallow disused sewer. These pipes will be used chiefly for highway purposes.

SMOKE NUISANCE.—Observations were taken in connection with a complaint regarding a smoke nuisance in the Haigh township, but I was unable to find sufficient evidence to justify any action being taken.

SCAVENGING.—The number of loads of nightsoil, etc., removed in the whole of the district during the year is as follows:—

No. of loads from privies, ashpits, &c.	3,571
,, closet pails emptied ... ..	4,550
,, dustbins emptied ... ..	1,176
,, cesspools emptied ... ..	57

The cost of manual and team labour for this work was £1,210 5s. 0d.

CANAL BOATS ACT.—33 canal boats were inspected, two of which did not comply with the regulations. One required caulking, and this work was undertaken immediately. The other is an old boat, and in this case the owners decided not to use same.

HOUSING & TOWN PLANNING ACTS.—138 houses have been inspected for the purposes of these Acts, and full particulars have been recorded in respect of 39. 14 notices have been served on owners regarding dilapidations. There has been no change in the housing accommodation during the year.

The Council received tenders for the construction of a new street and the erection of 32 houses at Broad-o'th'-Lane, Shevington, but owing to the wave of economy by the Ministry of Health, this work was not proceeded with. The land is now for disposal.

NEW FOOTPATH.—A new footpath has been made at Shevington, between Gathurst Lane and Miles Lane, thus effecting a saving of considerable time and distance.

BUILDING PLANS.—The following 8 plans have been submitted and approved:—

New House	...	...	...	1
„ (Army Hut)	...	...	...	1
Additions to Houses	...	...	...	4
Temporary Buildings	...	...	...	2

Final certificates have been granted for 2 new houses in Wood Lane, Parbold, and the Government have paid the subsidy grant of £260 and £240 respectively.

NUMBERING OF HOUSES.—Most of the houses in the Wrightington township have been numbered, and the work has been greatly appreciated.

CROOKE BRIDGE.—The existing wooden bridge over the River Douglas is unsafe, and it is proposed to erect a new structure. A plan has been prepared and an estimate obtained for the work. The Wigan Corporation are responsible for half the expense.



**WATER SUPPLIES.**—During the exceedingly dry summer it was found necessary to curtail the water consumption, particularly in Parbold, where the yield from the borehole was reduced to half the usual flow. Full consideration was given with a view to increasing this supply, and it was decided to sink an 8 inch borehole to a depth of 50 feet. This work is now in hand, and it is estimated that the yield will be more than doubled.

Nothing further has developed regarding the Appley Bridge water supply, except that the Lancashire County Council have arranged with the Wigan Corporation for a supply to Wrightington Hall, from the Robin Hood Well.

In my opinion the Council will be well advised to have the various public water supplies analysed, especially during the dry and wet seasons.

Yours faithfully,

**PAUL FAIRCLOUGH,**

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.



## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1921, for the Rural District of Wigan.

### 1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) ... ..	11,696
Population (1921) ... ..	6,310
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)... ..	1,437
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921) ...	1427
Rateable Value ... ..	£63,745 15 0
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£233 7 5¼

### 2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1921.

	Total.	Male	Female.
Births—Legitimate .....	125	65	60
Illegitimate .....	2	2	0
Deaths .....	79	35	44

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth—  
from Sepsis 1, from other causes 2.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age—Total 7; Legitimate 7;  
Illegitimate 0.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 0; Whooping Cough (all ages), 2;  
Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age), 1.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which  
has received or required comment.—None.

#### Rates per 1,000 of Population.

	Birth- rate.	Death- rate.	Phthisis Death- rate.	Rate of deaths under 1 yr. to 1,000 Births.
1921 .....	20.1	12.5	1.26	55
1920 .....	24.5	11.7	0.81	33
Mean of 10 years 1911-1920 .....	20.6	13.6	0.65	109
<i>Increase or Decrease in 1921 on</i>				
<i>Previous Year</i> .....	−4.4	+0.8	+0.45	+22
<i>Ten Years' Average</i> .....	−0.5	−1.1	+0.61	−54

TABLE B.

WIGAN RURAL DISTRICT.  
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of Cases of Infectious Disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1921.

Disease.	Total Cases at all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED.											65 and over	Total Deaths. removed to Hosp.	Hospital. Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.	
		Years.														
		Under Ages. 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65				
Diphtheria and																
Membranous Croup	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas ... ..	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	14	0	0	0	0	2	6	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Enteric Fever (incl'dg																
Paratyphoid) .....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Acute Prim. Pneum'nia																
" Influenzal "	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—																
Males .....	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	3	0	1
Females .....	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	5	0	2
Other Forms of Tuberculosis—																
Males .....	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Females .....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Diarrhoea, etc. ....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
(under 2 years)																
Totals.....	42	0	1	0	0	2	10	8	5	6	3	6	1	15	1	3

TABLE B.—*Continued.*

- (1) Specify the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths.—All tuberculosis deaths were previously notified.
- (2) Add a note as to the efficiency of notification of tuberculosis in the district, and the action taken (if any).—The notification of tuberculosis diseases is carried out efficiently.

State whether any of these diseases are compulsorily notifiable in your district. If so, which, and for what period?—No.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—None.

## 4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Specify any causes and invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the district during the year. (This should include information obtained from local general practitioners).—No sickness of a special character has occurred during the year.

No. of times School Closure adopted.—None.

No. of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910.—None.

(Signed) GEO. H. ORMSBY,

Medical Officer of Health.

May 12th, 1922.

# Rural District of Wigan.

Table C.

## 5.—Summary (for reference) of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District.

Professional Nursing in the Home. Arrangements in the district for— (a) General Nursing (b) For Infectious Diseases, <i>e.g.</i> , Measles, etc.	None.  None.
Midwives—Is any Midwife employed by or assisted by the Local Authority? Number of Midwives on the County Council Register, 31—12—1921	No.  No. on Register 2      No. actually practising, 2
Any comments as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the midwifery service?	Another midwife has lately been added to the Register whose services will be found most helpful.
What action has been taken by the Council respecting Child Welfare Work?	None.
Has a local Child Welfare Centre been established?	No
Have any of the following been provided in your district :— Day Nursery Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children School Clinic Tuberculosis Clinic Venereal Diseases Clinic	No No No The County Council have a Clinic at Wigan. There is one at the Wigan Infirmary.



# SUMMARY.—Continued.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system? Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, &c.?	Wrightington, Shevington, Parbold, Dalton, Worthington and part of Haigh. Systematically done.
Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams?	None
Canal Boats: Number inspected?	33      Number of Infringements of Acts? 2
What is the condition of the Bakehouses? "      "      Slaughter Houses? "      "      Lodging Houses?	Good      No. ? 4. 2 Fairly Good. 1 Bad.      No. Registered? 3.      No. Licensed? None. Has a Public Abattoir been provided? No. None.
What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools?	Generally Good
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops— Are they periodically inspected? Have Regulations been made under the order of the L.G.B.? Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow? Cowkeepers?	Yes      What is their condition? Well kept. Yes 1st March, 1907      Are they enforced? Yes (a) Where cows are habitually grazed? None specified, (b) Where cows are not habitually grazed? 800. Total No. of Cowkeepers? 78. No. on Register? 67. No. of Inspections during year? 38
Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers)? Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows. Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk?	Total No. of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors? 1      No. on Register? 1 No None



# SUMMARY.—Continued.

<p>Inspection of Food— Action taken in respect of places where food is prepared.</p> <p>Any food poisoning?    Action taken.</p>	<p>Periodically inspected. No.</p>
<p>Amount of food condemned or surrendered as unfit for human Consumption—</p> <p>(a) Tuberculosis Carcasses and parts?</p> <p>(b) Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (other than above)?</p> <p>(c) Other food stuffs?</p> <p>Number of Legal Proceedings and result?</p>	<p>(a) None</p> <p>(b) None</p> <p>(c) None</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Milk and Cream Regulations—</p> <p>Action taken by Local Authority (if any)</p>	<p>No action taken.</p>
<p>Notices served—Nuisances</p>	<p>Number of Notices served? Informal—39, Statutory—18. Number of Nuisances abated? 30</p> <p>Number of Legal Proceedings taken, and result—None</p>
<p>Closets and Ashpits.</p>	<p>Privy Middens—No. of Middens, 588; No. of Closets attached to these Middens, 902; No. of Pail Closets, 99; No. of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens), 172; No. of Fresh Water Closets, 96; No. of Portable Receptacles for refuse, 18. No. of Waste Water Closets, Nil; No. of Privy Closets converted during 1921—To Fresh W.C.'s, Nil; to Waste W.C.'s, Nil; to Pails, &amp;c., 10; No. of Pail Closets converted to Fresh W.C.'s, Nil; Waste W.C.'s, Nil; No. of Waste W.C.'s converted to Fresh W.C.'s Nil.</p> <p>Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion? No.</p> <p>What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new property? Water closets.</p>

## SUMMARY.—Continued.

Smoke Nuisance.	Number of Observations, 2; Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result, None; What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour—None fixed
Has the Authority adopted—	“The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890”? Yes. “The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907”? No. “The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890”? Yes.

## 8.—Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health—GEORGE HENRY ORMSBY. Salary (including Bonus) as M.O.H., 31-12-1921, £110.  
 Is he a whole time Officer? No.  
 Sanitary Inspector—PAUL FAIRCLOUGH. Salary (including Bonus) as Inspector, 31-12-1921, £240.  
 Is he a whole-time Officer? No. If not, what other appointments does he hold? Sanitary and Building Surveyor, and Water Engineer.  
 Assistant Sanitary Inspector—None.  
 Any other Public Health Officers, such as Health Visitors and Special Nurses; if any, give names, Salaries, qualifications, and offices held—No.

## 9. — Housing.

No. of new houses erected during the year—

(a) By Private Enterprise—2.

(b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme—0.

No. of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme—0.

# SUMMARY.—Continued.

## Unfit Dwelling-houses—

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts)—138.

(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—39.

Have the particulars of these inspections been fully recorded as specified in the regulations?—Yes.

(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation—1.

(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3)) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation—26.

## Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers—4.

## Action under Statutory Powers—

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs—26.

(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—

(a) By owners—16.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners—0.

(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close—1.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1921	Automatic flushing syphon fixed at Red Rock sewer. New invert formed in manholes, and sewer thoroughly cleansed.
Chief Sanitary requirements of district	Sewage disposal and privy midden conversions.

Signed,

GEO. H. ORMSBY,

Medical Officer of Health.

May 12th, 1922.

